



# 1378  
8/2

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANTS: Jamie Callan ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. P990600  
SERIAL NO. 08/912,757 GROUP ART UNIT: 2771  
FILING DATE: August 18, 1997 EXAMINER: T. Havan  
INVENTION: "SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR FILTERING A DOCUMENT  
STREAM"

RECEIVED  
DEC - 5 2000  
TECHNICAL CENTER 1100

AMENDMENT "B"

Hon. Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

S I R:

This amendment is filed in response to the Office Action of August 2, 1999.  
Please reconsider the application in view of the amendment and remarks presented  
below.

Please  
Enter  
T44  
3/2/00

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Twice Amended) An apparatus for filtering documents as received, the  
apparatus comprising:

a document parser, said document parser accepting a document as input as it is  
received and providing an inverted list of terms contained in the document as output;

a profile parser, the profile parser accepting a user query comprised of terms and  
operators as input and providing a query net representing a parsed user query as output;  
and

a comparator that compares the inverted list for an incoming document against  
the query net representing the parsed query and providing as output an indication  
whether the incoming document matches the parsed query,

wherein,

the apparatus is programmed to filter documents using recursive statistical  
inference in which numerical weights assigned respectively to the query terms are  
combined as dictated by the query operators and in which evaluation of one level of a  
query tree pauses while evaluation of another lower level proceeds.

B/  
com